

REMARKS

The Office Action dated June 7, 2004 has been received and carefully noted. The above amendments to the title, drawings and claims, and the following remarks, are submitted as a full and complete response thereto. Claims 21-40 have been cancelled. New claims 41-59 have been added. No new matter has been added. Claims 41-59 are respectfully submitted for consideration.

The Official Action objected to the Specification on the basis that the title of the invention was not descriptive. The Office Action indicated that a new title was required which is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed. The title has been amended to read "Congestion and Overload Control in a Packet Switched Telecommunications Network," which clearly describes the subject matter of the invention. Thus, the objection to the title is rendered moot.

The Official Action also objected to the drawings. The Office Action indicated that Figures 1 and 2 should be designated by a legend stating that it is prior art, because these figures only illustrate what is already known in the art. Replacement figures 1 and 2, indicating those figures as prior art, are submitted along with this Response. Thus, the objection to the drawings is rendered moot.

The Office Action explicitly states that claims 21, 34, 35, and 40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Hunt (U.S. Patent No. 6,151,300). However, the Office Action goes on to provide a rationale for the rejection of claims 22-31 and 36-39. Therefore, Applicants assume that all of claims 21-31 and 34-40 are

rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Hunt. However, if this application is not in condition for allowance, a new Office Action is requested which clearly and properly sets forth the status of the claims.

However, the Office Action indicated that claims 32 and 33 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicants respectfully submit that new independent claim 41 contains all of the limitations of cancelled claim 32, which was indicated as allowable, including all of the limitations of its base claim and any intervening claims. Therefore, Applicants respectfully assert that claim 41 is now in condition for allowance. Furthermore, new claims 42-53 are dependent upon claim 41, and therefore should be found allowable for at least their dependence upon claim 41 and for the specific limitations recited therein.

New claims 54 and 59 contain similar limitations to claim 41, and therefore should also be in condition for allowance. Claims 55-58 are dependent upon claim 54, and should be found allowable for at least their dependence upon claim 54 and for the specific limitations recited therein.

Applicants respectfully submit that all of claims 41-59 are in condition for allowance. Consequently, Applicants respectfully request that all of claims 41-59 be allowed, and that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

If for any reason the Examiner determines that the application is not now in condition for allowance, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact, by telephone, the applicant's undersigned attorney at the indicated telephone number to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this application.

In the event this paper is not being timely filed, the applicant respectfully petitions for an appropriate extension of time. Any fees for such an extension together with any additional fees may be charged to Counsel's Deposit Account 50-2222.

Respectfully submitted,



Majid S. AlBassam
Registration No. 54,749

Customer No. 32294
SQUIRE, SANDERS & DEMPSEY LLP
14TH Floor
8000 Towers Crescent Drive
Tysons Corner, Virginia 22182-2700
Telephone: 703-720-7800
Fax: 703-720-7802

MSA:cct

Enclosures: Replacement Figures 1 and 2 (1 sheet)